

Book Reviews

EMERGENCY SURGERY. By JOHN W. SLUSS, A.M., M.D., F.A.C.S., associate professor of surgery, Indiana University School of Medicine. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. 827 pages with 685 illustrations, some of which are printed in colours. Publishers: P. Blackiston's Son & Co., 1012 Walnut Street, Philadelphia. Price, \$4.00 net.

THE present volume by Dr. Sluss is the fourth edition within a very short time, a fact which sufficiently attests its popularity. The book obviously fills a want which has been particularly felt by the general practitioner. The only book that we know of of late years devoted to this particular field is that of Lejars, of Paris, which was translated into English a few years ago and had a large sale. Lejars book, however, is too lengthy and cumbersome for the purpose of the general practitioner who finds himself in an emergency. In this respect Sluss' book is an excellent compendium. It is full enough, and yet concise enough. The illustrations are numerous; there is one for almost every page, and on the whole they are excellent, although quite a few of them, adapted from older text-books, are, according to our present day standard, a trifle crude. The subject matter is presented in good concise English, though without pretence to style. One is inclined to take issue with certain statements; for instance, in speaking of the treatment of appendicitis the author advises, where pus is expected, an incision which cuts through the internal oblique across its fibres. Nowadays there are practically no cases of appendicitis that need the cutting of muscle with consequent tendency to hernia.

There is a great deal of useful information given in a concise way, and of value, not only to the general practitioner, but to the surgeon, particularly concerning the rarer emergencies, such as, wounds of the heart, cesophogotomy, etc. As usual in such books, there is given a great deal more than properly comes under the head of "emergency surgery". For instance, the treatment of cold abscess (page 394) can hardly be called an emergency; the same is perhaps true of furuncle of the face. However, this is perhaps hypercritical. There are a couple of good chapters on

wounds of the war, which, however, are already partly out of date; for example (when one remembers the long and precise directions that Carrel recently put forth), the instructions for making Dakin's solution are dreadfully abbreviated.

One might go through the book and pick out a great many things to approve, and a few things to condemn, but space forbids. On the whole the book is cordially to be recommended.

THE PRACTICAL MEDICINE SERIES. Vol. VI. GENERAL MEDICINE, edited by FRANK BILLINGS, and others. Series 1916. Chicago, The Year Book Publishers, 327 LaSalle Street. Price, \$1.50.

In the present volume the subjects of infectious diseases, diseases of the mouth and œsophagus, of the stomach, of the intestines, of the liver and gall bladder, and of the pancreas, are reviewed. The volume contains 340 pages and has an excellent index. It maintains the high reputation long since acquired by this series of year books. The reviews are well done and the newer things are well selected. It is to be recommended.

Books Received

THE following books have been received and the courtesy of the publishers in sending them is duly acknowledged. Reviews will be made from time to time of books selected from those which have been received.

THE PRACTICAL MEDICINE SERIES; Comprising ten volumes on the Year's Progress in Medicine and Surgery. Under the editorial charge of CHARLES L. MIX, A.M., M.D., professor of physical diagnosis in the Northwestern University Medical School. Vol. I, GENERAL MEDICINE. Edited by FRANK BILLINGS, M.S., M.D., head of the Medical Department, and Dean of the Faculty of Rush Medical College, Chicago. Price, \$1.50. Vol. II, GENERAL SURGERY. Edited by ALBERE J. OCHSNER, M.D., F.R.M.S., LL.D., F.A.C.S., surgeon-in-chief Augustana and St. Mary of Nazareth Hospitals. Series, 1917. Chicago, The Year Book Publishers, 608 S. Dearborn Street. Price, \$2.00.

IMPOTENCY, STERILITY, AND ARTIFICIAL IMPREGNATION. By FRANK P. DAVIS, PH.B., M.D., Fellow American Medical Association. Publishers: C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1917.

FOOD POISONING. By EDWIN OAKES JORDAN, chairman of the Department of Hygiene and Bacteriology, the University of Chicago. Price, \$1.00 net. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1917.

ASTHMA: PRESENTING AN EXPOSITION OF THE NONPASSIVE EXPIRATION THEORY. By O. H. BROWN, A.B., M.D., PH.D., formerly assistant professor of medicine, St. Louis University. 322 pages with 36 engravings. Price \$4.00. Publishers: C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1917.

EXPERIMENTAL PHARMACOLOGY. By DENNIS E. JACKSON, PH.D., M.D., associate professor of pharmacology, Washington University Medical School, St. Louis. 536 pages with 390 original illustrations including 24 full page colour plates. Price \$4.00. Publishers: C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1917.

Obituary

DR. THOMAS DYSON WALKER

DR. THOMAS DYSON WALKER, one of the leading physicians of St. John, N.B., died in the Massachusetts General Hospital on July 22nd. Dr. Walker, owing to failing health, had been compelled to spend the last few winters in a warmer and more genial climate, but when the weather moderated he always returned to St. John where he did active service on the surgical staff of the St. John General Hospital. He held office on several occasions in the New Brunswick Medical Association and was a past president of the St. John Canadian Club. When the 8th Field Ambulance was first organized in St. John, many years ago, Dr. Walker took an active part in its formation, and became a member of its staff, continuing his connexion with the corps until he attained the rank